

Department of Historic Resources
Reconnaissance Level Survey

Accomack

DHR Id#: 001-0027-0011

Resource Identification

Property Name(s): WFF # D-001 – A/C Maint. - Hanger – Avionic
{ Current}
Property Date: 1944
Address(s): Rehor Road { }
County/Independent City: Accomack
Vicinity of: Chincoteague
State, Zip: Virginia 23337
USGS Quad Name: CHINCOTEAGUE WEST
Surrounding area: Rural

National Register Eligibility Status

Property is Historic (50 years or older)

Resource Description

Ownership Status: Public - Federal
Acreage: 0.5

Primary Resource Exterior Component Description:

<u>Component</u>	<u>Comp Type/Form</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Material Treatment</u>
Foundation	Foundation - Slab	Concrete	Foundation - Poured
Porch	Porch - None		
Roof	Roof - Flat	Steel	Roof - Corrugated
Structural System	Structural System - Frame	Steel	Structural System - Steel
Windows	Windows - Sash, double-hung	Vinyl	Windows - Original Replaced
Chimneys	Chimneys - None		

Site Description: Surrounded by concrete and located south of Runway 10-28.

WUZIT Count:

<u>No.</u>	<u>Wuzit Types</u>	<u>Historic?</u>
1	Hangar	Historic

NR Resource Count:

Individual Resource Information

WUZIT: Hangar

Est. Date of Construction: 1944 {Owner/written data} Accessed? Yes
Primary Resource? Yes Number of Stories: 2.0
Architectural Style: Other Condition: Good
Interior Plan Type: Irregular Threats to Resource: None Known

Description: The building has a poured concrete slab foundation and a flat roof. The roof is covered with modern, corrugated steel panels. The exterior walls are clad with the same steel paneling and aluminum siding. The east and west elevations have eight large, two-story steel-frame doors, hung on a track. The door frames are divided into twelve sections, three across by four high, and each section contains twenty, fixed panes, five across by four high held in place by steel mullions. The doors retract from the center toward the sides; retracted completely, the interior of the hangar is open from both ends. Two-story wings, ten bays long, run the length of the north and south elevations. A small raised section marks the entry near the center of both elevations. Each bay contains two stacked panels that typically contain a ribbon of three steel fixed-pane windows above steel hopper sashes surrounded by aluminum panels; all of these are replacement windows. Other windows include one-over-one double hung and fixed pane, vinyl replacement sash. Steel doors, some of which contain rectangular fixed-pane windows, are found in on the first level in several bays on the north and south elevations. An aluminum roll top door is located on the north elevation. At the time of the survey, a two story, concrete block-enclosed entry vestibule and staircase was under construction, abutting the center of the north elevation.

Cemetery Information

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Bridge Information

National Register Eligibility Information

Historic Context(s): Military/Defense

Historic Time Period(s):..... Q- World War I to World War II (1914-1945)

Significance Statement: This large, two-story building, built in 1944, serves as an aircraft hanger, a function that is consistent with its original use when constructed as part of the Chincoteague Naval Auxiliary Air Station (CNAAS). The building also contains administration offices associated with aircraft and flight operations as well as temporary storage spaces. This building was designated as the "Hangar" on a 1944 facility map entitled "General Plot Plan – Auxiliary Air Station, Chincoteague, Virginia" by Giffels and Valet, Engineers and Architects, Detroit, Michigan. It was similarly identified on the 1950 "Map of Navy Auxiliary Air Station and Naval Ordnance Test Station, Chincoteague, Virginia" prepared by the U.S. Navy. It was designated as the "F.A.D. Hanger and Offices" on the 1953 "Station Development Map – Naval Auxiliary Air Station, Naval Aviation Ordnance Test Station, Chincoteague, Virginia" by the U.S. Navy. The building is located in a paved area on the south side of the east-west runway, on the north side of the Wallops Flight Facility (WFF) main base, just off Rehor Road. The paved runway areas and surrounding concrete apron have changed numerous times since its original construction.

This building is an example of a Military/Defense facility, built at the end of the World War I to World War II (1917-1945) period. The building was constructed as part of the Chincoteague Naval Auxiliary Air Station (CNAAS). Established in 1943, CNAAS was used as a training base for Navy aircraft carrier squadrons that would be serving in the Pacific theater of World War II, and to enable the Civil Air Patrol to conduct antisubmarine operations off the Atlantic coast. In 1946, the Navy expanded the mission of CNAAS to include the Naval Air Ordnance Test Station (NAOTS). By 1949, the Navy discontinued aircraft carrier training at the base and in 1951 CNAAS became a Naval Air Facility with a primarily research based-mission that corresponded with the mission of NAOTS until the based was closed in 1959. In 1959, the ownership of CNAAS was transferred to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and was renamed Wallops Station. The building has essentially retained its original use throughout its history on the base. The Aircraft Maintenance Hangar has been evaluated both as a contributing resource in a historic district and as an individual resource. Issues of significance, integrity, and district boundaries were carefully considered. A proposed district comprising this resource lacks integrity of design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association due to the removal of the majority of buildings from the period of significance (1936 to 1959) and the construction of later buildings. Thus a historic district here is not eligible under Criterion A, B, C, or D.

As an individual resource, it is not eligible for listing in the National Register or the Virginia Landmarks Register under Criterion A, B, C, or D as it is not associated with a significant event or individual at the local, state or national level; it does not embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or represent the work of a master, or possess high artistic values, or represent a significant or distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; nor does this property have the potential for providing additional information in history or prehistory.

The resource has lost its integrity due to alterations to the resource and its setting. The resource's integrity of design, materials, and workmanship has been adversely affected by numerous additions, the replacement of the building's doors and windows, and the introduction of modern corrugated metal panels that cover the exterior. Although remaining in its historic location, the building's integrity of setting, feeling, and association has been adversely affected by the changes made to the surrounding setting of the base of which it was a part; by 2004, the majority of buildings of this period have been demolished, changing the historic character of the physical environment of the building's historic context.

Bibliographic Documentation

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Reference #: 1

Bibliographic RecordType: Map

Author: U.S. Navy

Citation Abbreviation:

Notes: "Map of Navy Auxiliary Air Station and Naval Ordnance Test Station, Chincoteague, Virginia."
1950.

Reference #: 2

Bibliographic RecordType: Map

Author: Giffles and Valet

Citation Abbreviation:

Notes: Giffels and Valet, Engineers and Architects, Detroit, Michigan. "General Plot Plan – Auxiliary
Air Station, Chincoteague, Virginia." 1942.

Reference #: 3

Bibliographic RecordType: Map

Author: U.S. Navy

Citation Abbreviation:

Notes: "Station Development Map – Naval Auxiliary Air Station, Naval Aviation Ordnance Test
Station, Chincoteague, Virginia." 1953.

Ownership Information

Graphic Media Documentation

<i>Medium</i>	<i>Depository ID #</i>	<i>Photo Depository</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>File Name</i>
35mm B&W	21543	DHR	2004/07/99	Frames 27-33

Cultural Resource Management (CRM) Events

CRM Event # 1,

Cultural Resource Management Event: Reconnaissance Survey

Date: 2003/08/08

Organization or Person: URS Group

VDHR Project ID # Associated with Event: .. 2003-0571

CRM Event Notes or Comments: 7101 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 700
Bethesda, MD 20814

CRM Event # 2,

Cultural Resource Management Event: Reconnaissance Survey

Date: 2004/07/99

Organization or Person: URS Group

VDHR Project ID # Associated with Event: .. 2003-0571

CRM Event Notes or Comments: 200 Orchard Ridge Drive, Suite 101
Gaithersburg, MD 20878